# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2474
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
UPLIFTMENT OF SCs
Jha Shri Raghunath

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether there is no clear cut strategy for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes (SC) population living below double the poverty line;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether only 281 SC artisans were benefited under the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) schemes during 01-04-2001 to 01- 03-2004;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to strengthen the monitoring of the NSFDC`s schemes?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) The thrust of the strategy is to eradicate poverty and empower weaker sections of the society particularly SC/ST population. In almost all the schemes/programmes adequate coverage of the Scheduled Castes beneficiaries is ensured.

(b) The question does not arise in view of above.

(c) The NSFDC has extended benefits to 2,12,121 Scheduled Caste beneficiaries in addition to the 281 Scheduled Castes artisans.

(d) Same as above.

(e) NSFDC`s monitoring mechanism has been strengthened by way of

(i) submission of Quarterly Progress Reports

(ii) periodic Utilization Drives undertaken by NSFDC, and

(iii) random inspections of beneficiary units by NSFDC Officials and independent agencies.